

Togashi ("Togashi"). It is respectfully submitted that Togashi does not anticipate the subject matter of claims 1-15 for at least the following reasons.

In order for a reference to anticipate a claim, "every element of the claimed invention must be identically shown in a single reference." In re Bond, 910 F.2d 831, 832, 15 USPQ2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (emphasis added).

Togashi does not identically show every element of claims 1-15. For example, claim 1 recites "a plug ... including at least one **sleeve** contact..." As shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the above-identified application, the at least one contact 9, 10 is a sleeve contact configured to substantially surround the terminal contact 5, 6 when the at least one sleeve contact and at least one terminal contact are joined. In contrast, Togashi does not show a sleeve contact configured to substantially surround a terminal contact when assembled. Togashi describes a coaxial connector that includes a central terminal portion 11. Terminal portion 11 is generally "U-shaped." (Togashi, col. 5, ll. 14-16; Figure 7.) It is apparent from the bottom view shown in Figures 4 and 8 that terminal portion 11 cannot substantially surround the central terminal portion of the mating connector as would a sleeve contact when assembled. Thus, Togashi does not identically show at least one **sleeve** contact.

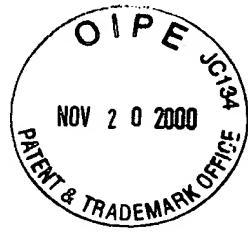
Since claims 2-15 are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 1, they are also not anticipated by Togashi for at least the above discussed reason.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is requested.

III. NEW CLAIM

Applicants have added new claim 16. Support for new claim 16 can be found in Figures 1 and 2 of the application.

Applicants submit that claim 16 is new and nonobvious.



IV. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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